Provident Fund arrears of Employees

2245. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the arrears of employees' contribution to provident fund have shown alarming rise during the last two years; if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(b) the measures Government have taken/propose to take against the guilty persons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) No, Sir. During 1989-90, the arrears of Provident fund contribution (including employees' contribution) increased by Rs. 12.68 crores. However, there was a net reduction of arrears by Rs. 2.5 crore during 1990-91.

(b) The Provident Fund authorities are already taking necessary legal and penal action against the defaulting employers to recover the outstanding EPF dues.

Worker's Participation in Management

2246. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to provide for workers' participation in management; and

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The Participation of Workers in Management Bill, 1990 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 30-5-1990. The Bill has not been taken up for consideration by the House.

Registration of Minority Candidates

2247. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 584 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th March, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the names of the places where Sub-Exchanges were opened after State Governments were requested by the Centre in this matter;

(b) what are the names of the places where special drives/mobile camps were organised in minority concentration areas: and

(c) how many minority candidates were registered as a result of the above steps?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Child Labour Engaged in Beedi Industry

2248. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'Child labour' working in the Beedi Industry in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to put a ban on child labour engaged in Beedi Industry; and

(c) if so, how the child labour would be compensated if it runs out of work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Employment of child labour in beedi industrial premises is already prohibited as per provisions of Section 24 of Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 which is reproduced as under;

> 'No child shall be required or allowed to work in any industrial permises."

According to Section 2(b) of the Act "Child means a person who has not completed fourteen years of age." Threfore,